Rt. 12, Frederick, Md. 21701
10/7/76

Mr. George Forcey
George Banta Co.
Curtis Reed Plaza
Menasha, Wisc. 54952

Dear George,

I'm sorry your 9/23 mailing of the dummy sig was delayed in the mails. A year ago the rural routes were renumbered and then the post office stopped forwarding from their old number to their new one, all inside one building.

As soon as I received it I put it, the dummy you made up and the maximum number of enclosures I can imagine into as heavy an envelope as I could find and weighed the package. Because it came to exactly 15 ounces on my scale I took the package into the post office and weighed it on two of their scales. It is exactly 15 ounces. This will go for the one-pound rate. However, it does not allow for the weight of the ink. If the ink adds as much as a half-ounce, as I fear it will, I won't add the second sig to the reprint of this book. Its title is Photographic Whitewash. The added mailing cost will be too great and most of these will go by mail.

As soon after I hear from you as possible I'll get everything to Bruce.

I'd also like to take shipping up with you now. All of you have been so helpful I'll explain my situation so you can give me your best advice.

Just getting the last book two miles from the moving and storage company into our basement cost me something more than $250.00, in addition to the other shipping charges. I was not able to help any because I was having a severe thrombophlebitis when we shot the negatives in Washington. You printed while I was in the hospital. There was permanent damage and I can no longer do any of that kind of heavy work. The only place I have to warehouse is my basement. So I may want to accept Banta's offer of warehousing if that will not make a big added cost in a second shipment. Can you let me know if it will?

Perhaps the cost of a shipment on a special truck will preclude that but if it does not add more than $250 I might want that. The problem is a 400-foot lane of beautiful pines. The fuel-oil can make it without breaking the trees but nothing larger can. No tractor-trailer can make the lane and the hand-trucking takes too much time. However, a truck that can make the lane can also back to the top of the cellar steps. The books can then be carried or skidded down.

Your cartoning last time was perfect. The maximum weight per carton should be just under 40 lbs, the maximum the post office allows. Your boxing was for 12x18 contents, four 6x9 books on a layer. Your bound dummy is just under 3/4" on the spine. From this I estimate that you could have 40 books per carton, with each carton running about 8" in height. This comes to 125 cartons, a few more if there is an overrun. If I am correct then I'll be able to know how much space to ~~make~~ clear and have ready. The same carton, by the way, can be used for another book I'm going to have to reprint very soon. I'll be ordering 5,000 of them, too.

There may be another possibility for me. There is a small trucking company about 12 miles away. I believe they pick up in Baltimore if the trucks you use cannot deliver to them. Whether the other lines listed in the local phone book can do this I don't know. But once I know the weight and volume I'll call them all up and then let you know on the shipping.

cc: Bruce Waterhouse

Best regards,

Harold Weisberg